

Meeting Minutes: Diversity Committee April 22, 2014

Present: Angela Palmer, Nicholas Campau, Leroy Wright, Amy Otteson, Renee VanderMyde, Angela Garrey, Matt Chaney, and Mickey Albright

Guests: Dr. Jeanine Ward-Roof and Franklin Hughes

Diversity Website Review:

Nicholas introduced and shared with the committee, our most recent efforts of improving the Student Affairs Diversity website. The website revisions include up-to-date photos, a diversity statement, several links to campus resources, and a feedback form. A few suggestions were made to enhance the revised website and they are as follows:

- Create one list instead of two of campus resources and rename the heading to, "University Campus Resources."
- Send out a Campus Wide Notice letting the campus community know that they are welcome to visit our website as well as provide feedback via the linked form regarding our campus diversity efforts.
- Send the link for the feedback form to Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) through OrgSync and let them know that the feedback form is available to them.

It was noted that Franklin Hughes was a huge help in assisting in the revision of the website. A big thank you was given to Franklin for his many hours of dedication in improving and creating a more welcoming and up-to-date website.

Student Affairs Diversity Statement Update:

Nick highlighted the new Student Affairs diversity statement as well. The statement is the product of much feedback from the division and the committee.

Dr. Ward-Roof's vision:

Leroy Wright communicated that we are always looking for ways to re-energize the focus of our committee and asked that Dr. Jeanine Ward-Roof share her vision of the Student Affairs Diversity committee under her leadership and guidance. Dr. Ward-Roof communicated that through the efforts of our committee, our ultimate goal is to keep in mind the success of

our students. The division's efforts should help prepare our students for a world after Ferris; a world that is diverse. We should ask our students to act as citizens with global minds and awareness. Dr. Ward-Roof highlighted that diversity is infused in our campus mission statement and within our university goals so it is imperative that everyone make it a priority. It is important to educate our department through staff development opportunities and work toward having the resources and tools to educate ourselves.

Professional Development:

Leroy asked the committee if they had any thoughts of professional development activities or educational opportunities that our committee could partake in and/or benefit from. The intended outcome for such professional development should be educational awareness which focuses on the needs of our students. A suggestion was made to present a diversity of lecture series, much like the Grand Rapids Community College hosts.

Angela Garrey/Articles to Share:

Angela shared two articles with the committee that she had found which was relevant to our ongoing efforts of being an inclusive and welcoming campus. The articles are as follows:

- *Finding Your Team, No Matter What Team You Play For*
- *Roosevelt University Senior Moves to Chicago and Finds Freedom*

Round Table:

Dr. Jeanine Ward-Roof asked that we communicate with her when we have a specific event in which we would like her to attend. She also offered to pass along an invite to the members of the President's Council on our behalf if we communicate with her our desire to do so.

Submitted by: Angela Palmer
Administrative Assistant to the Dean of Student Life